



Northern Ireland
Assembly

COMMITTEE FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

**WEDNESDAY 16 MARCH 2016
ROOM 21, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS**

Present:

Mr Trevor Clarke MLA (Chairperson)
Mr Seán Lynch (Deputy Chairperson)
Mr John Dallat MLA
Mr Cathal Ó hOisín MLA
Mrs Brenda Hale MLA
Mr Chris Lyttle MLA
Mr Adrian Cochrane-Watson MLA
Mr Stephen Moutray MLA

In attendance:

Mr Trevor Allen (Senior Assistant Assembly Clerk)
Ms Kate McCullough (Assistant Assembly Clerk)
Mr Oliver Bellew (Clerical Supervisor)
Mr Barry McLernon (Clerical Officer)

10.10am: The meeting opened in public session

2. CHAIRPERSON'S BUSINESS

Agreed: The Committee agreed that the minutes of the meeting of 16 March 2016 should be signed off as an accurate record of proceedings by the Chairperson.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that, for any correspondence that arrives between this meeting and dissolution on 29 March 2016, the Committee Office should issue a standard letter stating that the Committee had no further meetings but the correspondence will be forwarded to Members for information.

Members noted arrangement for the Committee visit to Jordan Products Limited, Ballyclare, this afternoon.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Mr McAleer and Mr McNarry.

2. DRAFT MINUTES

Agreed: The Committee agreed the minutes of the meeting on 2 March 2016.

3-8. SL1s TO NOTE

The Committee was content to note the following SL1s:

- The Road Races (Circuit of Ireland Rally) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016;
- The Road Races (North West 200) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016;
- The Parking and Waiting Restrictions (Belfast) (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016;
- The Parking and Waiting Restrictions (Belfast) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016;
- The Waiting Restrictions (Donaghmore) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016;
- The Parking and Waiting Restrictions (Londonderry) (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016.

9.-12. SL1s – NEGATIVE RESOLUTION

The Committee was content with the merits of the following policy proposals:

- The Thornburn Road, Belfast (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016;
- The Penalty Fares (Increase) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016;
- The Disabled Persons (Badges for Motor Vehicles) (Amendment No. 2) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016;
- The B122 Murley Road, Fivemiletown (Abandonment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016.

10.16am: Brenda Hale joined the meeting

13-16 STATUTORY RULES

Agreed: The Committee for Regional Development has considered SR2016/103: The Trunk Road T10 (Cornamuck Realignment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016 and, subject to the ESR's report, has no objection to the rule.

Agreed: The Committee for Regional Development has considered SR 2016/112: The River Lagan Foot/Cycle Bridge Order (Northern Ireland) 2016 and, subject to the ESR/s Report, has no objection to the rule.

Agreed: The Committee for Regional Development has considered SR 2016/113 The Truck Roads T7, T17 and T22 (Londonderry to Dungiven) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016 and, subject to the ESR's report, has no objection to the rule.

10.19am: Mr Clarke joined the meeting

Agreed: The Committee for Regional Development has considered SR 2016/114: The River Lagan (Diversion of Navigable Watercourse and Extinguishment of Public rights of Navigation) Order (Northern Ireland) 2016 and, subject to the ESR's report, has no objection to the rule.

17. DRAFT ISSUES PAPER

Members considered the draft issues paper detailing the event with stakeholders on Wednesday 9 March 2016 which focused on how to make Belfast a modern city served by all forms of public transport.

Agreed: The Committee is content with the issues paper.

Agreed: The Committee agreed it should be referenced in the legacy Report and published on the Committee's webpage.

Agreed: The Committee agreed it should be forwarded to the Department and requested that a response on the issues should be provided to the incoming Committee.

10.25am: Mr Clarke took the Chair

The Committee recorded its thanks to the stakeholders who attended the event and for their valuable contribution.

18. DRAFT LEGACY REPORT

Members considered the Committee's draft Legacy Report prepared for the end of mandate.

Agreed: The Committee is content with the Committee Legacy Report.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that the Committee Office revises the statistical and financial information when it has been validated.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that the Legacy Report be published on the Assembly website.

The Chairperson thanked the Committee Members and staff for their work with the Committee for Regional Development during the mandate.

19. MATTERS ARISING

The Committee noted a response from the Minister regarding Lord Empey's proposed Airport (Amendment) Bill .

The Committee noted a response from the Department to issues raised following a presentation by the Royal National Institute for the Blind.

The Committee noted a copy of the meeting schedule in relation to the Memorandum of Understanding between the Consumer Council NI, Translink and the Department.

The Committee noted a response from the Department in relation to its recent consultation on the Strangford Ferry which advised that, and following consideration of the objections received, Transport NI will not progress the proposed changes.

The Committee noted the Department's response to issues that came to the attention of the Committee during its visit to a number of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) schemes.

The Committee considered a response from the Department to the its queries on the Flagship Projects – Park and Ride, Dungiven/Londonderry area.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to write to the Department to express its frustration to the response received regarding park and ride facilities in the Dungiven area and to the number of parking spaces allocated.

The Committee noted a response from the Department to the concerns relating to health and safety concerns on the road network.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to write to the Department to express that the response received on this matter was not acceptable to the Committee.

The Committee noted a response from the Department on the delay in bringing forward the subordinate legislation on the A6 Londonderry to Dungiven Dual Carriageway.

The Committee noted a letter from the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission regarding the Land Acquisition and Compensation (Amendment) Bill.

The Committee noted further information on the Conemaster system and an extract from Parliamentary Question Time.

The Committee considered Professor Austin Smyth's paper on the proposed modified timetable for Belfast to Dublin Enterprise Service.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that this paper be published on the Committee's webpage and forwarded to the Department for comment.

The Committee noted information on the recommendation that the proposal to develop a North West Regional Multimodal Transport Hub will progress to Stage Two of the INTERREG Va funding.

20. CORRESPONDENCE

The Committee noted, from the Committee for the Environment, the Report on its River Pollution Stakeholder Event.

The Committee noted correspondence from the Committee for OFMdFM correspondence on the Office of the Northern Ireland Executive in Brussels.

The Committee noted, from the Department, the proposal for Donaghadee (Harbour Area) Order (Northern Ireland) consultation paper.

The Committee noted, from the Department, information on the public consultation on the Proposed Railways (Safety Management) Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016

The Committee noted the following EIS press releases:

- Minister - £550,000 Translink audio visual system now complete
- Sustainable Wastewater Treatment Scheme in Castle Archdale
- Integration between Translink and Rural Community Transport Provider

Members noted an invitation from Collaboration NI to its conference in May 2016.

The Committee noted an update on the Procurement Activity Report from the Strategic Investment Board.

The Committee noted the 14/15 Annual Report for Belfast Healthy City.

The Committee noted, from the Northern Ireland Assembly EU Officer, information obtained from City A.M. on the UK ports under threat from EU rules overhaul.

The Committee noted, from the Department, information on the Water and Sewerage Services (2006 Order) (Commencement) No. 4 Order (Northern Ireland) 2016.

The Committee noted, from the Department, an update to the inquiry into the Coleraine to Londonderry Rail Track Phase 2 project.

21. EU MATTERS

The Committee noted the Northern Ireland Assembly's EU matters issue 02/2016 newsletter.

22. AIRPORT NOISE – DEPARTMENT FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

10.35am: The following officials joined the meeting:

- Mr Tom Reid, Director of Transport, Policy, Strategy and Legislation
- Mr Garry McKenna, Transport Legislation

10.49am: Mr Moutray left the meeting

The Committee received an update briefing from the Department on issues raised at a previous briefing on 17 February 2016 in relation to airport noise.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to receive from the Department confirmation of whether Belfast City Airport is made aware of when airport noise levels are being monitored.

Agreed: To ask the Department for information on the contributions made to costs for reducing noise in residents homes.

10.45am: Officials left the meeting

21. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Committee thanked those Members not seeking re-election, Committee Staff and Officials for their contribution to the committee throughout the mandate.

Agreed: To write to the Department seeking further information on the changes to the blue badge scheme.

11:03 The Chairperson adjourned the meeting

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Mr Seán Lynch MLA
Deputy Chairperson, Committee for Regional Development

23 March 2016